

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 02273 021043Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /028 W
-----041868 021210Z /46

R 020923Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3918
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RANGOON 2273

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BM, ID

SUBJ: CIVIL AVIATION: AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA;
UTILIZATION OF TWIN OTTERS; AND BAC INTEREST IN BUFFALO AIRCRAFT

1. INDONESIA'S MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS VISITED BURMA JULY 27-31. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE MINISTER'S TRIP WAS TO SIGN AN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH THE GUB. NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE AGREEMENT HAVE BEEN GOING ON SINCE 1974. THE FORMAL SIGNING TOOK PLACE ON JULY 28. ACCORDING TO BURMA AIRWAYS CORPORATION (BAC) OFFICIALS, THE AGREEMENT WOULD PERMIT BAC TO ADD JAKARTA TO ITS WEEKLY RANGOON-SINGAPORE-RANGOON FLIGHT, BUT THERE ARE NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO DO SO.

2. THE INDONESIAN MINISTER ALSO HELD TALKS WITH HIGH RANKING GUB OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION, THE MINISTRY OF TRADE AND WITH GENERAL SAN YU, SECRETARY OF THE BURMA SOCIALIST PROGRAM PARTY. AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS VISIT THE INDONESIAN MINISTER SAID THAT BURMA AND INDONESIA ARE STUDYING PLANS FOR INCREASED COOPERATION IN TRADE, COMMUNICATION AND MINING. HE ALSO STATED THAT COOPERATION WOULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY IN AIRCRAFT OVERHAULING AND MAINTENANCE.

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3. THIS LATTER STATEMENT MAY REFER TO AN ARRANGEMENT TO SERVICE THE NINE TWIN OTTERS WHICH BAC RECENTLY ACQUIRED THROUGH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT CREDITS. BAC HAS HELD TALKS WITH A NUMBER OF SMALL AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE FIRMS IN THE AREA REGARDING THESE PLANES.

4. A CIDA EMPLOYEE HERE TO TRAIN PILOTS FOR THE OTTERS SAID

THAT EIGHT OF THE PLANES WOULD BE PUT INTO REGULAR COMMERCIAL SERVICE FOR BAC WHILE THE NINTH HAS BEEN FITTED WITH A MORE LUXURIOUS INTERIOR AND IS RESERVED FOR VIP USE. ANOTHER CIDA OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY AIR ATTACHE THAT BAC IS VERY INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING A BUFFALO AIRCRAFT FROM CANADA FOR INTERNAL AIR CARGO OPERATIONS. AS THIS PLANE HAS NOT BEEN COMMERCIALY CERTIFIED, THERE HAS BEEN DELAY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT THE OFFICIAL EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THESE DIFFICULTIES COULD BE OVERCOME AND CANADA WOULD SOON PROVIDE CREDIT FOR BAC TO PURCHASE THE AIRCRAFT. BARTLEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AVIATION, AGREEMENTS, AIRCRAFT, ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977RANGOO02273
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770276-0454
Format: TEL
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197708106/aaaadmbu.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f2da9e4f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1418305
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVIL AVIATION: AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA; UTILIZATION OF TWIN OTTERS; AND BAC INTEREST IN BUFFALO AIRCRAFT
TAGS: PINT, CH, PLA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f2da9e4f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009